



COLORADO SPRINGS,
COLORADO

INSIDE:

MAY 1991

**SKYWARN
INFORMATION**

SWAPFEST '91

PIKES PEAK RADIO AMATEUR ASSOCIATION, INC.
P.O. Box 16521
Colorado Springs, CO 80935

FIRST CLASS MAIL



Ø BEAT



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* Denotes first year of a two year term.

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The Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association meets on the second Wednesday of each month at the Elks Lodge, 3400 North Nevada Ave. at 7 PM.

EDITOR: Ron Deutsch NKØP 4305 Ridgeline Drive, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80918 (719) 593-8352. Electronic data transfer by appointment.

Message from the President...

Once again we saw a big increase in the attendance at the April 1991 monthly PPRAA meeting. We had 100 chairs set out, but 110 people came! Perhaps some people came just because of the annual Severe Weather Training program but, even so, it's encouraging to see such a turnout and we'll have yet more chairs next time just in case.

The club's annual swapfest is quickly approaching. The new location has some people skeptical about how successful it will be especially with the isles of this shopping center being narrower than those to which we have become accustomed. However, the change which affects the layout more than anything comes from the new regulations from the Fire Department which require all isles to be a minimum of 10ft wide, and we had nothing like that width at our former location! So the table layout is going to be a real challenge for Al and Jeff this year.

Sales of both tables and raffle tickets seem to be moving more slowly than in past years probably due to both the new location and the current economic climate. So, given that this is our biggest revenue producer of the year, I'd like to encourage you all to do your best in selling raffle tickets, available from any board member and at the Saturday morning breakfasts. And remember to contact Al or Frances (number below) to reserve your tables.

Those of you who attended the meeting where we had the mini-auction will remember the fun we had (much of it thanks to Wil NØHRD!), so we've decided that it's time for another. As usual, at the June meeting we expect that Mike KØTER will have quite a lot to say (even more than usual!) about field day in particular, so we'll let him have as much time as

he needs and then fill the rest of the evening with the auction. This will be your opportunity to sell things that didn't sell at the swapfest, or that you forgot to bring, or things that you bought and already realized you really didn't need (not that any of us ever buy things we don't need, do we?). Let's hope that Wil can be there again.

I'll look forward to seeing you all on Wednesday.

73, Dave, NØION

Committee Chairpersons, etc.

Publicity:	Al Craig N2IWZ	594-9268
Education:	Allen Bailey ADØZ	597-8514
VE Testing:		
Main Contact:	Chris Smith NXØE	495-0824
ARRL Liason:	Bill Stanfill K4YCD	531-7738
Interference:	Lauren Libby KXØO	593-9861
ARES:	John Chapman NØKIC	635-1804
SKYWARN:	Doug Paris N4TGO	496-4908
Public Service:	Mike Stansberry KØTER	636-1290
Field Day:	Mika Stansberry KØTER	636-1290
CCARC:	Oak Stockton KØROL	570-7782
Club Trailer:	Steve Westby WB7VHR	570-1070
Swapfest:	Jeff Boyes NØJLH	591-6438
Swapfest Tables:	Al Vrooman NØCMW	473-1660
	or Frances Vrooman NØIUT	473-1660
Ø BEAT:	Ron Deutsch NKØP	593-8352

PPRAA SWAPFEST

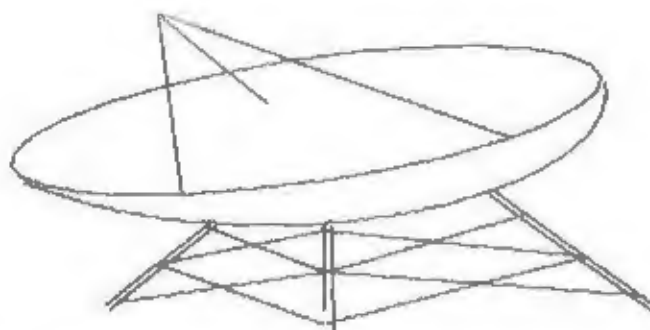
FREE ADMISSION!!!

MAY 18, 1991 8AM TO 3PM

SHOPS AT THE BLUFFS

ACADEMY & AUSTIN BLUFFS PARKWAY

I-25 TO EXIT #146 THEN EAST 4-MI TO MALL



TABLES \$10 IN ADVANCE

CONTACT AL NØCMW OR FRANCES NØIUT @ 473-1660

TALK-IN 146.52 SIMPLEX

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

April 10, 1991

The general meeting of the Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association was called to order at 7:02 pm in the basement of the Elk's Club. After a welcome from Dave - NØION, the 108 members and guests introduced themselves. It was noted that several new hams were present.

Upon approval of the minutes as printed in O-BEAT, Rosie - WAØMNL reported on the state of the treasury. Income amounted to \$358.00 and expenses totaled \$1012.00 leaving a balance of \$1480.56.

Al - N2IWZ reported on the status of efforts in publicity. The Gazette is printing a few lines on ham radio and announcements have appeared on the radio. Al indicated that he would be more involved now that he was recovered from his illness.

John - NØKIC noted that the Supercities Walk went well and thanked the volunteers.

In Public Service matters, Mike - KØTER acknowledged the valuable help of the volunteers at the Walk. He also handed out the paperwork for the Walk for Mankind. It was also announced that the Field Day site has been approved.

Dave brought up the issue of ham involvement in the Pikes Peak Hill Climb. It was determined by the membership that the association could not support the Hill Climb this year.

Chris - NXØE made note of the upcoming VE testing at the Swapfest on May 18th. Pre-registration is preferred but walk-ins will be taken (just arrive early).

Al - ADØZ noted that Education classes are going well with 22-24 students. A Novice test will be administered before April 30th and the classes will then work with the no-code people for the May 18th test.

No other committee reports were available.

No new business was brought before the group; thus, the break occurred at 7:45 with the raffle following. Winners of the raffle were:

Alan A.	30' tape measure
Faye - KBØOI	window clipboard
Mark - NØEPF	krypton flashlights
Bill Petty	krypton flashlights
Ora Rose	repeater directory
Joe Freeman	QST
Doug - NØHJT	OEM gift certificate
Al - NØCMW	lamp

Following the raffle, the program consisted of a training session for Skywarn and severe weather spotters. The program was detailed and included slide and film presentations. Available were numerous handouts covering basic safety and spotting procedures.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:58 pm. The next regular meeting will be at the Elk's Club on May 8, 1991.

DITS AND BITS

FOR SALE:

40 Ft. Rohn 25 tower \$125.00 Dave, WBØSDW
471-0743

FOR SALE:

Cushcraft AV-3 10-15-20 meter vertical, like new condition. \$50

Bird 82A Dry Dummy load Type "N" connector commercial quality \$50

3-4CX250 Eimac sockets \$10 ea.

B&K Transistor Analyst, built in multimeter and DC supply. \$35

Henry 3K HF Linear Amp Commercial version 3-30 MHZ. Run the limit all day!! \$800 or Trade??

MFI Code practice oscillator (no key) \$10

Heath Antenna dummy load \$15

Bird 43 wattmeter like new \$125

Bird 43 elements 250A, 1000H, 25B, 5C, 500D, 25C, 250C, 50B, 50 db element for scope or freq. counter. \$35ea (1000H \$45)

Bird 43 with "N" line section and aluminum case \$75

ICOM 745 HF transceiver with general coverage receiver. Includes the following options: SM-6 Desk mike, FL-52, FL-45, FL-44A, EX-241 marker unit, EX-242 FM unit, EX243 electronic keyer unit. Unit just back from ICOM like new condition. \$850.00

"May" separate accessories.

SWAN-WM-1500 HF SWR/Wattmeter \$50

10 Meter ground plane antenna \$10

RON NKØP 593-8352

FOR SALE:

Down-East Microwave 1296 MHZ loop yagi 45
ele. \$25 Al NØCMW

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SPOTTER RULES AND CLUES

1. An overshooting top is an indicator of a very strong storm.
2. A rain-free base denotes the storm's intake area - the place to watch!
3. Wall clouds form from the rain-free base often 15-20 minutes before a tornado.
4. Differentiate tornadoes and funnels! Funnels don't touch the ground or do damage.
5. Large hail often falls just in advance of a tornado.
6. The direction of the storm's movement is generally indicated by the cirrus anvil.
7. Tornadoes generally move toward the northeast at 25-35 miles per hour.
8. Poor visibility, running and ponding bar ditches are indicators of heavy rain.
9. The first gust of wind from the thunderstorm is usually the strongest.
10. Cars are safe places in case of lightning but NOT in the case of tornadoes.

ALWAYS HAVE AN ESCAPE ROUTE PICKED OUT!

REPORTING CRITERIA

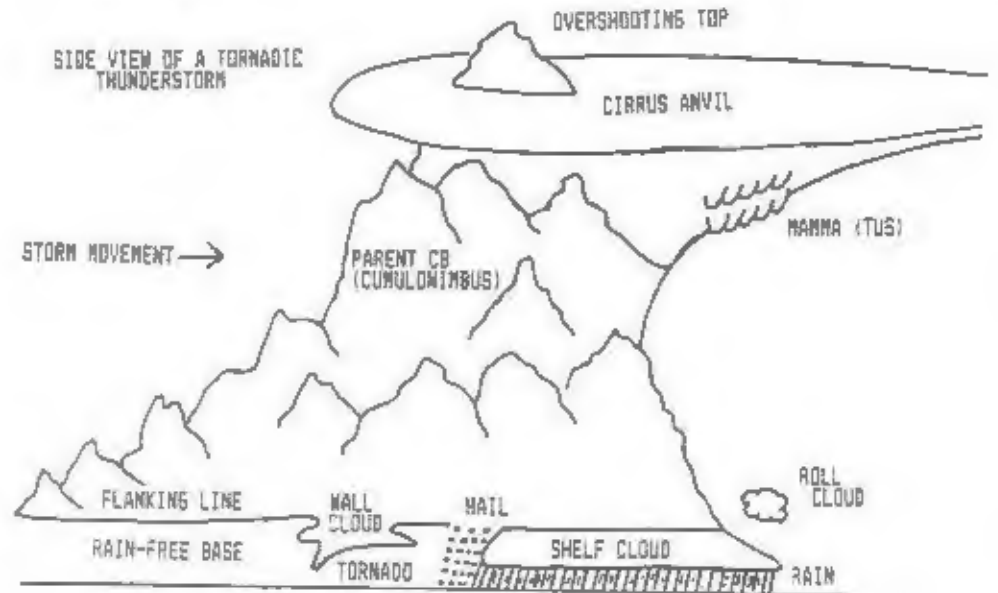
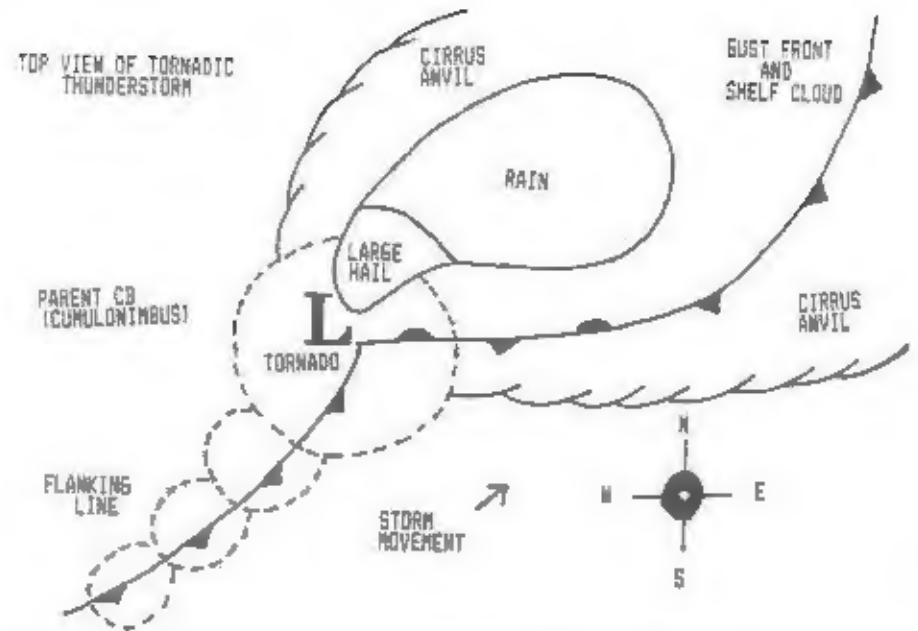
ESTIMATING HAIL SIZE

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Tornado or Funnel Cloud | Pea size, <input type="checkbox"/> 1/4 inch |
| 2. Hail 1/4 inch or larger | Marble size, <input type="checkbox"/> 1/2 inch |
| 3. Damaging winds (50 MPH or stronger) | Grape size, <input type="checkbox"/> 3/4 inch |
| 4. Flash Flooding | Quarter size, <input type="checkbox"/> 1 inch |
| 5. Rain, 1 inch per hour or more | Golfball size, <input type="checkbox"/> 1 3/4 inch |
| | Baseball size, <input type="checkbox"/> 2 3/4 inch |

BEAUFORT WIND SPEED EVALUATION CHART

<u>Miles Per Hour</u>	<u>Specifications</u>
0	Calm: Smoke rises vertically.
1-3	Direction of wind shown by smoke drift but not by wind vanes.
4-7	Wind felt on face; leaves rustle; ordinary vane moved by wind.
8-12	Leaves and small twigs in constant motion; wind extends light flag.
13-18	Raises dust; loose paper; small branches are moved.
19-24	Small trees in leaf begin to sway; crested wavelets form on inland lakes.
25-31	Large branches in motion; whistling heard in telephone wires.
32-38	Whole trees in motion; inconvenience felt walking against wind.
39-46	Twigs break off trees; generally impedes progress.
47-54	Slight structural damage occurs (chimney pots and slate removed).
55-63	Trees uprooted; considerable structural damage occurs.
64-72	Damage is major to structures and is widespread.

<u>V. F. F.</u>	<u>LEVEL (RADAR)</u>	<u>THEORETICAL RAINFALL RATE</u>	<u>CATEGORY</u>
1		0.0 TO 0.1 inch per hour	Light
2		0.1 to 0.4 inch per hour	Moderate
3		0.5 to 0.9 inch per hour	heavy
4		1.0 to 1.9 inch per hour	Very Heavy
5		2.0 to 4.9 inch per hour	Intense
6		5.0 or more inch per hour	Extreme



Accessory Clouds - Clouds dependent on a larger cloud system for development and continuance. In thunderstorms, they are roll, shelf, mamma and wall clouds.

Anvil - The advance spreading of the upper portion of a thunderstorm into an anvil-shaped cloud of fibrous or smooth appearance. Often indicates the storm's movement.

Cumulonimbus Cloud - The parent cloud of the thunderstorm which towers above the ordinary cumulus clouds. It is often accompanied by a flat cirrus anvil.

Cumulus Cloud - A column of rising air that has condensed into a dense, non-fibrous cloud appearing like a rising mound with a flat dark base and a white sunlit tower.

Downdraft - Cool air that falls with the precipitation in a shower or thunderstorm.

Dry Line - Usually a north-south boundary line separating warm, dry air to the west from warm, moist air to the east. Springtime thunderstorms often form just east of this line.

Flanking Line - A row of towering cumulus clouds extending from the southwest edge of the parent cumulonimbus in decreasing height. Tornadoes can form on the underside.

Flash Flooding - A rapid rise in a stream, river tributary, or dry creek bed often before the heavy rainfall ends. The flood crest follows the rise very rapidly.

Funnel Cloud - The same as a tornado, except the rotating column of air remains aloft. The cloud is a tornado--not a funnel--if a ground-based dust whirl is seen below.

Gust Front - The leading edge of a cool thunderstorm downdraft, usually marked by gusty, cool winds, blowing dust, and roll or shelf clouds. Rarely a tornado area.

Hail - Precipitation in the form of balls or clumps of ice. Severe storms are the most likely producers of large hail. Tornadoes are often preceded by large hail.

Hook Echo - A radar pattern sometimes observed in the southwest quadrant of a tornadic thunderstorm. Formed by precipitation aloft being wrapped around the backside of the rotating updraft, it is about 10 miles in diameter and appears like a Figure 6. This is a preferred area of tornado development.

Lightning - A visible electric discharge caused by thunderstorms, often very frequent or continuous in severe storms. Can illuminate storm features at night.

Mamma(tus) Clouds - Hanging rounded protuberances or pouches often seen on the underside of a thunderstorm anvil. These are not indicators of severe weather.

Precipitation Shaft - A visible column of rain and/or hail falling from a cloud base, appearing dark in heavier precipitation. Often appears stringy, changing rapidly.

Rain-Free Base - In thunderstorms, a horizontal, flat, dark base with no precipitation below. This usually marks the updraft or "intake" area. Tornadoes usually form from wall clouds attached to the rain-free base or from the rain-free base itself.

River Flood - Floods on rivers, usually after flash flooding on streams and tributaries. River floods develop and peak more slowly than flash floods.

Roll Clouds - An accessory cloud formed just ahead of a thunderstorm gust front. Often extending great distance, it appears to rotate along a horizontal axis. It is rare for tornadoes to be produced from roll clouds.

Scud Clouds - Dark and wind torn low clouds often seen near thunderstorms. They do not produce severe weather.

Severe Thunderstorm - A thunderstorm producing 58 MPH (50 KTS) winds, 3/4 inch diameter or larger hail, tornado and/or funnel cloud. Because of strong updrafts and updraft rotations, they last for hours often producing heavy rain and floods.

Straight Winds - Cool outflow from the thunderstorm's precipitation area, originating as downdrafts and forming gust fronts. They produce more damage than tornadic winds.

Shelf Cloud - A smooth-topped, ragged-based accessory cloud forming along the gust front and attached to the thunderstorm base. It is accompanied by strong winds and blowing dust but rarely is associated with tornadoes.

Thunderstorm - A local storm produced from a cumulonimbus cloud with thunder, lightning, strong winds, heavy rain and sometimes hail. A non-severe cycle:

1. Cumulus - Warm moist air rises and condenses into tiny droplets forming a cloud.
2. Mature - The cloud grows above the freezing level where some droplets freeze. The ice particles grow as the liquid droplets adhere to them.
3. Dissipation - Cool rain and downdrafts prevail, choking off the intake of warm moist air which fuels the storm. The storm becomes "fuzzy" looking and rains itself out.

Tornado - A violently rotating column of air extending from a thunderstorm to the ground. It usually occurs in the southwest quadrant of the storm, under the intake attached to a wall cloud or the rain-free base. Its spin is usually counter-clockwise as in low pressure cells. Often called a cyclone or twister, it can produce winds of 100 mph.

Updraft - Warm moist air rising and condensing into a visible cumulus or cumulonimbus cloud. Once formed, the cloud depends on the updraft to mature. In severe storms, the updraft generally begins to rotate, causing the storm to move to its right.

Wall Cloud - A lowering of the rain-free base into a ragged low-hanging accessory cloud. Usually from 1 to 3 miles in diameter, it is located at the storm's updraft or intake. It is turbulent and rotating, often precedes the tornado by 15 to 20 minutes.

MOST TORNADOES DEVELOP BENEATH THE WALL CLOUD, SO IT MUST BE WATCHED!

SKYWARN!!

SAFETY ITEMS

First, it must be noted that the very nature of this job, being a SKYWARN amateur radio operator, is inherently dangerous. We are voluntarily placing ourselves in harm's way. We definitely run an increased risk of injury, or even death. You, as an individual, must be aware of this. Now is the time to back out if you do not want to be involved. If you are injured or killed during a SKYWARN activity, neither you nor your surviving relatives will be compensated in any fashion by the National Weather Service, the Amateur Radio Emergency Services organization, the Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association, or any other individual or group. You are becoming involved with this SKYWARN Severe Weather Group at your own risk.

1. Spotters: Generally, in this area a storm will move from the south or southwest to the north or northeast. As with everything else in life, however, there are exceptions. Be aware of a storm's direction of travel. Never approach a storm from the north or northeast, or from the direction in which it is moving. If you are unsure as to the storm's movement ask net control for help. The station at the NWS may be able to get a radar plot on the storm.

2. Net control stations: Never explicitly direct spotters in the field. You can request that they approach a storm cell. For safety reasons however, they must be free to approach the storm from a direction of their own choosing. They can sometimes see things that you cannot and because of this you might inadvertently direct them into a dangerous situation. By the same standpoint, do not hesitate to assist a spotter if one asks you about a storm's direction of movement. That information may be obtainable from NWS radar.

3. Base Stations: Do you have a UL or other agency approved lightning arrester on each transmission line coming into your shack? How about an approved surge suppressor on the commercial power feed to the shack? If your station takes a lightning hit while you are operating it, approved suppression equipment might make the difference between your just being injured and becoming a "silent key."

4. Never attempt to outrun a tornado in your car. Nearly half of all tornado fatalities in the last ten years have occurred among people trying to flee in their automobiles. If you are outside during a tornado and cannot reach a substantial building,

find cover in a ditch, a culvert, a ravine, or other low spot. Cover your head with your hands.

5. If you are inside a building when a tornado strikes, go to the basement. Full basements are best but half-sunken basements will do if nothing else is available. Take refuge in the smallest all interior room on the lowest floor, a bathroom, closet, hallway, etc. Do not bother to open windows to reduce air pressure differentials during a tornado. This has been proven to be ineffective and a waste of valuable time that could be used to reach safety. (Opening the windows will also expose you to possible injury by flying debris.)

6. Spotters in the field during thunderstorms should stay in their vehicles whenever possible. An automobile provides good lightning protection. If you cannot reach your car seek shelter away from tall structures such as trees, power lines, hilltops, wire fences, flagpoles, etc. If you cannot reach shelter crouch down in a ditch, ravine, canyon, or other low area. However, you must then be alert to the danger of flash flooding.

7. Be aware of the potential for flash flooding during thunderstorms. Know where high ground is. If flooding occurs move immediately to higher ground. Do not try to outrun a flood. Do not try to cross flooded areas. Be prepared to abandon your vehicle if necessary to reach high ground.

OPERATIONS

1. Safety, safety, safety! This cannot be emphasized enough!

2. At initial net check-in use the phonetic alphabet when giving your callsign. Then give your name and general location in plain language. You may be asked later by net control for your specific location. During the remainder of the net use phonetics only when asked in order to facilitate communications. Remember, we are using FM, a very clear form of radio modulation.

3. When giving reports be brief, succinct, and to the point. Give only the basic details: Time, location, and condition. Be prepared to give additional details to net control if they are requested.

4. Do not, do not, do not report non-severe weather events unless specifically requested by net control.

5. Use proper weather terminology as learned in the SWN/SKYWARN class. We will not be using any code names for severe weather conditions. Tornadoes will be called tornadoes, funnel clouds

will be called funnel clouds, etc. Report them as such.

6. Safety, safety, safety!

7. Be aware that commercial radio and television stations routinely monitor our frequencies. We must strive for accuracy in our reports. A report that you give to the net might also find its way into a broadcast station's weather warning or news flash. If your report is inaccurate, (or just speculative), the broadcast station may still report it as factual thereby causing a panic among the public. If you are unsure of any detail(s) of a report that you are giving, inform the net control operator. Even though we are "amateur" radio operators we must be as professional as possible.

8. Do not give the net any weather reports from broadcast sources, (that is TV or radio) or from the NOAA weather channel. Chances are the National Weather Service already has that information. In fact, it probably originated at the NWS. Be aware that the NWS also has other trained spotters that phone in their reports on unpublished phone lines. (These numbers, if you know them, are not to be given out to anyone else!)

9. The primary operating repeater for the Severe Weather Group Net will be the 97 machine at 146.97 megahertz, minus shift. The secondary or backup repeater will be the 345 machine at 147.345 megahertz, plus shift. In the possible event that both repeaters are down during a severe weather event the operating frequency will be 146.58 megahertz simplex.

10. The severe weather net may use tactical call signs. However, remember that when using tactical call signs legal ID's are still required every ten minutes.

11. Safety, safety, safety!

WHAT INFORMATION MUST BE REPORTED

1. Tornadoes on the ground
2. Funnel clouds aloft
3. Cold funnels
4. Hail, pea size or larger
5. Damaging winds equal to or greater than 50 mph
6. Rainfall at a rate equal to or exceeding 1 inch per hour
7. Flooding capable of causing damage or hazardous conditions
8. Storm damage (downed trees, power lines, property damage, etc.)

9. Severe lightning activity

Do not attempt to pass any other information unless it is specifically requested by net control or the station at the National Weather Service.

WHO MAY INITIATE A SEVERE WEATHER NET CALL-UP?

A Severe Weather Net will be activated only upon the request of the National Weather Service.

An exception to this would be confirmation of a severe weather event by a SWN member before the Weather Service asks for a net call-up. If a weather spotter can confirm a severe weather event (tornado, funnel cloud, dangerous flooding, imminent danger to life or property, etc.) the spotter should make every effort to contact one of these operators: Steve Westby WB7VHR, Doug Paris N4TGO, Mike Stansberry K0TER, John Chapman N0KIC, or Doug Moloney WB0MHP. The person contacted will then initiate the net and call the National Weather Service. In the event that none of these people can be contacted the spotter will then take it upon him or herself to activate the net and contact the NWS. Be sure that the weather event is actually severe and justifies call-up of the net. Whether the net will continue beyond this point must be based upon the mutual decision of the individual contacting the NWS, and NWS personnel. (Do not force your views upon the NWS people. They are the experts.)

WHO SHOULD CALL THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE, AND UNDER WHAT CONDITIONS?

No one should call the NWS unless a severe weather event must be reported (see the above section). Even during light to moderate, run-of-the-mill thunderstorms NWS personnel are busy. They do not need sixteen different individuals calling in offering amateur radio services. We wish to be an asset to the National Weather Service, not a liability.

If a spotter is concerned about developing weather conditions and whether there should be a call-up of the net, the spotter should contact one of the following individuals: Steve Westby WB7VHR, Doug Paris N4TGO, Mike Stansberry K0TER, John Chapman N0KIC, or Doug Moloney WB0MHP. The individual you contact will then call the NWS if the situation warrants it. An announcement should be made over the 97 repeater concerning the results of any call to the NWS and whether there will be a call-up of the net.

SUGGESTED EQUIPMENT LIST FOR SWN SPOTTERS IN THE FIELD

1. Two meter mobile rig and / or handheld with fully charged batteries. Spare batteries for the handheld would be advisable.
2. Binoculars
3. Spotlight that can be powered from vehicle battery. A very powerful flashlight would be acceptable.
4. Area maps: Colorado Springs, El Paso, Teller, Lincoln and Elbert counties
5. A high visibility safety vest of the type worn by road crews.
6. SKYWARN spotter ID card and / or ARES identification

Additional items:

- A. Foul weather clothing
- B. Shovel
- C. First Aid kit
- D. Food and water

NOTE: N4TGO, DOUG PARIS has a new unlisted phone number, if you need to call Doug, contact WB7VHR, Steve Westby @ 570-1070

PPRAA MAY MEETING

The May PPRAA meeting will be held on May 8, 1991 at 7PM. The meeting will feature N0LTV, Mike and the topic will be:

DIGITAL SIGNAL PROCESSING

PLACE: ELK'S CLUB 3400 NORTH NEVADA AVE.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

April 16, 1991

The regularly scheduled board meeting of the Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association was called to order by Dave - N0ION at 7 pm in the home of Jeff - N0JLH. Present were Jeff, Dave, Renay - KA0ROY, Cassie, Harv - WB6YXD, Rosie - WA0MNL, Russ - KB0FNM, Al - N0CMW, Al - N2TWZ, Ron - NK0P, and Mark - N0EPF.

Ron reported on a meeting he attended covering raffles and the state rules and procedures. He received a certificate making him the certified club representative of bingos and raffles. The new rules are reportedly very strict and will necessitate some changes in club procedures. The rules not only affect the Swapfest raffle but also the regular club raffles.

In terms of the Swapfest, the committee is fine-tuning the details; however, the economy seems to be presenting some problems.

Al indicated that a severe weather article is upcoming in the Gazette in conjunction with the anniversary of the Limon tornado. The Gazette expressed a desire to include hams and pictures of stations in the article. Al is also working on an article specific to ham radio and public service and centered on the running of Field Day.

Additionally, Al wishes to start a column in O-BEAT to recognize the "good deeds" that hams do that often go unnoticed. The column would recognize help offered by hams to others and would show ham involvement in the community.

Ron got approval for the printing of additional copies of O-BEAT for May so that extras are available for distribution at the Swapfest. The board approved a run of 500 copies for May.

Discussion centered on the Elk's Club meeting room. With the larger groups recently, there have been concerns expressed about the room. Alternatives to the present location and other comments are welcomed by the board.

Upcoming programs are set as: May -- Digital Signal Processing (N0LTV - Mike Guyote); June -- Field Day final plans and an auction.

The board also expressed its praise and appreciation to Steve - WB7VHR and his helpers on the excellent job done in upgrading and improving the trailer.

There being no further business before the board, the meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

The next board meeting will be May 21, 1991 (Tuesday) at the home of Al - N0CMW. All members are welcome.

"The View From the Peak"

by George Hinds, N8CIX

"What goes around, comes around".

Now it's come around — not too many years ago when there was a move afoot to populate the 220 MHz band with "codeless" amateurs, it was soundly driven into defeat by those who couldn't stand the thought of anyone not knowing code having an amateur radio operator license. You recall there were those brave souls who said drastic action was essential to get amateurs on 220 quickly to save the band. All to no avail — they were like voices crying out in the wilderness...

The skirmishing between the FCC and the ARRL has ended; we are the losers. Now the Commission has said amateurs must vacate 220-222 MHz by 90 days from the effective date of this rule change order issued April 17th. In turn, this means operation must cease within 120 days from publication in the Federal Register. It's likely publication will be about May 1st. So there officially goes another segment of another band. It's amazingly similar to how amateurs lost the 11 meter band years ago to CB.

What amateur band will be next? The demand for spectrum long ago outpaced the supply in many areas. Almost weekly one reads of new technology bringing forth another consumer product that uses radio. At WARC 92 without question other governments will be after more of our spectrum including HF. Will the "codeless" tech stop this erosion in the U.S.; at least in the over-30 MHz region? Obviously, we'd better hope so. Working actively to get family, friends and co-workers into amateur radio might be a really great idea now — for self-preservation.

Since many foreign countries view 40 meter amateur operation as nothing more important than an old man's toy for complaining about aches and pains, real and imaginary, compared to Third World demands for increased broadcasting there, how much support will go to continuing amateur operation on 40M from other countries in 1992?

Changing ■ subject: it was with a heart-warming feeling that I read the column in the May issue of Mobile Radio Technology.

Editor Don Bishop delivered a strong statement in support of Amateur Radio. He noted the public service rendered in emergencies and the training provided as a radio amateur that produces candidates for careers in communications. Don strongly urged the people in the two-way communications field to write their congressmen in support of the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 1991, which Representative Cooper (D) introduced as H.R. 73. This bill would protect amateur radio spectrum now in use. Have you written or called Representative Hefley urging he join in supporting this bill? If not, please do so now.

73, George N8CIX

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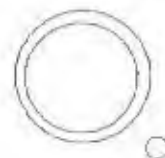
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